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NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

24 June 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR: Special Assistant to the Director  
for Planning and Development

THROUGH : Director of D & P, DPG/DCI

SUBJECT : Visit to ITEK, Boston, Massachusetts, 10-11 June 1958

1. This was the undersigned's first visit to ITEK in connection with Project CORONA.

2. Personnel contacted were [redacted] Walter Levison, [redacted]  
[redacted]

3. On 10 June 1958 [redacted] Levison and [redacted] gave the undersigned a briefing of events occurring to this date. Three graphs pertaining to anticipated performance were shown as were some preliminary drawings. It is my understanding these items are a part of a paper entitled "Pre-Design Study" dated 13 May 1958 which was recently sent to Mr. Biocell. Assuming the report will eventually become available for a detailed study and because of limited time, the contents of the report were not fully read and discussed.

4. Findings:

a. The camera design adopted is the best available for utilization in this Project.

b. Cursory examination of sketches indicate the following will be problem areas:

(1) Film transport -- The three rollers between supply and take-up, each placed 45° in line of film flow will be a major problem. To track accurately, tension must be well controlled and still not of such magnitude to cause pressure streaks.

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NOTE: ITEK received a call from Fairchild at 1715 hours on 10 June reporting pressure streaks and mistracking in the test model film transport system. An additional problem area is in the film supply and take-up within camera, this again is a question of alignment, proper tension and film feed onto the curved platen. Another area which must be thoroughly explored is film sag on supply spool. In CHALICE we have had occasions when thin base film has sagged on the supply spools consequently on feed off from supply spool film, because of its loose nature, has a tendency to fold or misguide and skew along the rollers. All above conditions can be greatly aggravated by initial G loads.

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25X1 c. Mr. Levison indicated that [redacted] will be assigned as CORONA Project Officer. Mr. Levison stated that [redacted] will be used in this capacity because (1) [redacted] can easily be cleared by Security, (2) Mr. Bissell highly recommended him. The undersigned, from past experience on CHALICE, reserves opinion as to [redacted] qualifications.

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d. Mr. Levison indicated he needed help in two areas:

a. Procurement of film. On 12 and 13 June the undersigned made arrangements with Mr. E. Green of Eastman-Kodak to deliver 10 rolls of special film within 60 days to ITEK. Also requested that Ed Green establish direct contact with Walt Levison. Eastman is reluctant to furnish film of this type and length to contractor because its performance is not known. The channel therefore will be to deliver film to Ed Green who in turn will ship it to ITEK. Spools will be furnished by ITEK.

b. Fairchild needs procurement priority mostly in electronic components. This requirement was brought to the attention of Lockheed on 6 June 1958 but no action has been taken as of 11 June 1958. This need was brought to [redacted] attention.

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[redacted] (24 June 1958)

1 - Addressee

2 - D & P

3 - [redacted]

4 - COM Chrome

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